# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2110
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000
EXPLOITATION OF DALITS
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

**Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Jahan Dalit ko Aaj Bhi Joote Pehanna Mana Hai` appearing in `Nav Bharat Times` New Delhi edition dated January 28, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the matter has been investigated or proposed to be investigated;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons thereof;

(f) the steps being taken by the Union Government to emancipate Dalits fromuntouchability in the Country; and (g) the guidelines likely to be issued to the State Government not to deprive Dalit section from social rights?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND POWERMENT
SMT. MANEKA GANDHI

(a) Yes Sir,.

(b)(c)&(d) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has investigated into the matter and reported that the allegations are false.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) & (g) In furtherance of Article 17 of the Constitution by which untouchability was abolished and its practice in any form was forbidden, the Protection of Civil Rights Act,1955 was enacted in order to enforce the Constitutional provision. Further to check and deter crimes against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Scheduled Castes andthe Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 was brought into force w.e.f. 30th January, 1990. Rules notified under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes

(Prevention of Atrocities) Act in March 1995 lay down procedures for implementation ofthat Act, including provision of relief and rehabilitation to the affected persons/dependents. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of implementation of Protection ofCivil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the ScheduledTribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, Central assistance is provided to the State Governments on50:50 basis (100% to the UTs) for the measures undertaken/proposed by them for effective implementation of both the Acts. Ministry of Home Affairs have also requested the Chief Secretaries ofStates/UTs to accord high priority to the framing, implementation and monitoring of the policies/schemes under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and to have appropriate mechanism for this purpose.